

UoC Asymptomatic COVID-19 Screening Programme: Lent Term Week 3 (1st – 7th February 2021)

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Participation

All 31 Colleges of the University of Cambridge and 6 Houses of the Cambridge Theological Federation participated in the programme.

Students screened

Because of national restrictions, fewer students are present in Cambridge than in Michaelmas Term. However, the programme has now been extended to include many students living in private accommodation.

All participating students present in Cambridge were invited to participate in weekly pooled sample collection, provided they did not meet pre-determined exclusion criteria.

1,752 pooled samples were received and processed at the testing facility. Of these, **12** were reported as “void” (for a variety of reasons, including inappropriate packaging and leaking samples).

4,050 students contributed to pooled sample collection, including **4,013** students with valid results.

Results

The final pooled screening test results were:

| Result | Number | % |
|----------|--------|-------|
| Positive | 13 | 0.7% |
| Negative | 1,727 | 99.3% |
| Total | 1,740 | 100% |

Members of all **13** positive pools were invited for individual confirmatory tests. As of Monday 8th February, all students had been re-tested. Of the positive pools:

- **0** pools were a true positive (i.e. included at least 1 student confirmed to be positive on individual testing).
- **13** pools were operational false positives (i.e. all individual confirmatory tests were negative, following pooled screening test results which were positive at the limit of detection).
- **0** pools have outstanding results.

The operational false positive rate for all pooled screening tests to date has been approximately **1 in 400**.

Additionally, **45** asymptomatic students were screened individually, for example on their return to Cambridge, and did not participate in pooled sample collection. All students tested negative for SARS-CoV-2.

Based on these data, we did not identify any asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection amongst students screened in the last week.

Summary for all students

| Week | No. students screened | No. confirmed positive cases | Weekly incidence* |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| 18 th -24 th Jan | 3,570 | 4 | 0.1% |
| 25 th -31 st Jan | 3,945 | 2 | 0.05% |
| 1st-7th Feb | 4,058 | 0 | - |

*asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection amongst screened students